



CEWARN *Monthly*

The Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism of the
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

"Empowering stakeholders to prevent violent conflict"

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Djibouti rolls out the Rapid Response Fund



Left: CEWERU Head of Djibouti Mr. Abdi Houssein Ahmed and Ag. Director of CEWARN Mr. Raymond Kitevu facilitate the RRF Sensitization Workshop. Right: some of the participants of the RRF Sensitization workshop

The Republic of Djibouti has become the fourth IGAD Member State to roll out CEWARN's Rapid Response Fund (RRF). The RRF is a multi-donor basket fund set up by CEWARN to support local peace building initiatives to avert and/or de-escalate pastoralist and related violent conflicts in CEWARN's areas of reporting. The fund enables CEWARN to directly support specific categories of community-level early response projects including community dialogue as well as capacity building projects among others.

The RRF Sensitization workshop for Djibouti which signifies the availability of the fund to support such initiatives in Djibouti was held from 28 -29 September at the IGAD Secretariat in Djibouti. The workshop was opened by the Minister of International Cooperation of the Republic of Djibouti, Mr. Ahmed Ali Silay and brought together participants representing the Djibouti national Conflict Early Warning and Response Unit (CEWERU), representatives of local peace committees, Members of Parliament, as well as regional, provincial and district administrators from Dikihil as well as representatives of non- governmental organizations including women, youth, religious and traditional leaders.

The Rapid Response Fund was first rolled out in Uganda in June 2009 followed by Ethiopia in July 2009 and Kenya in August 2009.

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Ethiopian CEWERU holds local peace committee revitalization workshops in Somali Cluster



*Local Peace Committee revitalization workshop
in Moyale town of the Oromiya Region*

The Ethiopian national Conflict Early Warning and Response Unit (CEWERU) conducted Local Peace Committee revitalization workshops in Dillo, Dire, Miyo, Moyali (Somali) and Moyali (Oromiya) woredas that are found in CEWARN areas of reporting on the Ethiopian side of the Somali Cluster from 2 – 6 September 2009.

The main objective of the workshops that were led by the national CEWERU Head of Ethiopia Mr. Abdeta Diribissa and the CEWARN Country Coordinator for Ethiopia Mr. Bizusew Mersha was to revitalize local peace committee structures in these woredas towards a more effective engagement in cross-

border peace building activities. The mission also initiated the formation of local peace committees at the lowest administrative levels (Kebeles) in concerned woredas.

According to Mr. Mersha, the revitalization effort is of critical importance in light of planned cross-border peace initiatives between Ethiopia and Kenya in the Somali Cluster to deal with cross-border pastoralist and related conflicts.

CEWARN Conducts Training of Trainers on Conflict Prevention Management and Resolution



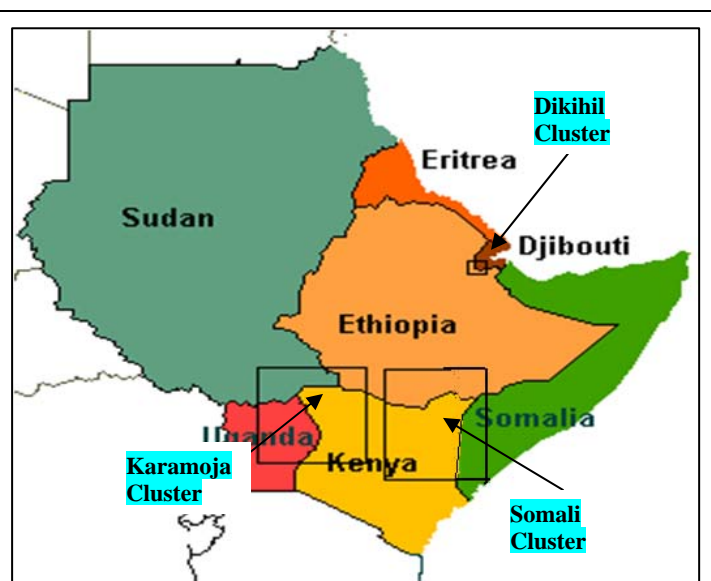
A lively session when trainees simulate negotiation between conflicting parties

CEWARN in collaboration with INWENT (a German based NGO) conducted a Training of Trainers (TOT) on Conflict Prevention Management and Resolution (CPMR) for the CEWARN Mechanism's stakeholders from 24 -27 September in Addis Ababa. Twenty participants drawn from Members of national CEWERU structures in the IGAD sub-region; Country and Assistant Country Coordinators as well as other professionals engaged in peace work in the sub-region were trained on CPMR related subjects including Communication, Conflict Analysis, Facilitation and Mediation.

The training that was facilitated by INWENT consultants Ms. Thelma Ekiyor and Ms. Gabriele Hoehl is part of a capacity building support agreement between CEWARN and INWENT from 2007 - 2009. INWENT's support to CEWARN in the past includes the preparation of a comprehensive training manual on CPMR in 2008.

According to CEWARN's Research and Training Officer Mr. Abdel Moneim Elhoweris, the training is very useful to CEWARN as the Mechanism seeks to empower local communities in the sub-region towards prevention of violent conflict. He also said that the trainees that have completed the TOT will routinely be called upon by CEWARN in the future to facilitate similar trainings at the national level.

News from CEWARN's Areas of Reporting



Rough Indication of CEWARN's Current areas of reporting - the Karamoja, Somali and Dikihil Clusters

In the Month of September, CEWARN's field reports from the Dikihil, Karamoja and Somali Clusters indicate that there were 43 violent incidents that caused 17 human deaths and loss of 7,803 livestock. The month generally registered the least number of violent incidents, deaths and livestock loss compared to previous months – July and August.

CEWARN participates...

The CEWARN Acting Director Mr. Raymond Kitevu was invited as trainer by the West Africa Network for Peace building (WANEP) to a capacity-building workshop in Accra, Ghana, from September 14-18 2009. The training programme was on "Early Warning and Early Response: Building Community Capacity for Preventive Peace building" and brought together participants from Africa and the Middle East among others.

CEWARN receives more support from USAID/EA



Centre: IGAD Executive Secretary Eng. Mahboub M. Maalim,, to his right: USAID/East Africa's Acting Regional Director, Larry Meserve, Far left: Mr. Samuel K. Maina, CEWERU Head of Kenya, to his right: Ms. Emily Kronic, and Far Right: Mr. Josphat Wachira

USAID/EA provided USD 500,000 to support CEWARN's sub-regional to prevent cross-border pastoralist and related conflicts. Agreement relating to the support was signed by the USAID/East Africa's Acting Regional Director, Larry Meserve, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development's (IGAD) Executive Secretary, Eng. Mahboub M. Maalim on 22 September in Nairobi.

During the signing ceremony, Mr. Larry Meserve commented, "Over the years, CEWARN has played a vital role in the Horn of Africa Region to communicate conflict mitigation and response policy options to decision-makers through national Conflict Early Warning and Response Units (CEWERUs) in IGAD member states." Eng. Mahboub M. Maalim on this part expressed his gratitude for the support by USAID/EA and indicated that CEWARN's priority is to strengthen its national and local level structures (including national Conflict Early Warning and Response Units (CEWERUs) as well as District Peace Committees (DPCs)) that play a key role in conflict mitigation and response activities.

Current contribution to CEWARN brings total US contribution to CEWARN since year 2006 to USD 4.2 million. USAID continues to be a key partner of CEWARN since its establishment in 2003 and supports various programmatic activities of the Mechanism.

Isiolo marks International Peace Day

by Abdia Ahmed CEWARN Field Monitor for Isiolo District in Kenya

Isiolo District located on the Kenyan side of the Somali Cluster colorfully celebrated International Peace Day 2009 on 24 September 2009. International Peace Day is a day dedicated peace and celebrated worldwide on 21 September.

International Peace Day Celebrations in Isiolo District started with a 2km public parade from Isiolo town centre. Celebrations then continued in the premises of Kilimani Primary School grounds in Burat which is 5 kms from Isiolo town. Burat is among the conflict hot spots in Isiolo District and Kilimani Primary School itself had suffered an attack on previous day (23 September) when three unidentified armed men entered the school compound and opened fire. While there were no students' deaths, many got injured in the process of running away.



*Borana Women Singing Peace Song
photo courtesy: Abdia Ahmed. CEWARN FM for Isiolo District*

The events that included drama, songs and discussions were organized with the support of the national Conflict Early warning and Response Unit (CEWERU) of Kenya; the Isiolo District Peace committee as well as the District Women Peace Forum. Community members including elders, women, youth, government officials, representatives of NGOs and CBOs participated in the celebrations. Isiolo District is home to diverse communities including the Borana, Meru, Samburu, Somali, and Turkana with some of these groups often engaging in cattle rustling and violent conflict.

September in pictures



Alfred Okech, CEWARN's Assistant Country Coordinator for Sudan and one of the trainees of the TOT on CPMR held in September makes a presentation



Pamela Bella Katoora, a trainee from Uganda of the TOT on CPMR, facilitates a training session



Ahmed Malik Abusin a trainee from Sudan proudly exhibits his certificate of completion of the TOT on CPMR



Residents of Isiolo District on the Kenyan side of the Somali Cluster participate in a 2 km march from Isiolo town centre towards Burat town marking the International Peace Day. Left in Uniform: Mr. James G. Kamau, District Commissioner of Isiolo and Far right entertaining the crowd is Reuben. Reuben is a visually impaired resident of Isiolo district. He is also Chairperson of the Disabled person's welfare association of Isiolo District; member of the District Development Committee and co-opted member of the Isiolo District Peace Committee. He is actively engaged in peace building in the district and has in the past brought together communities in conflict to discuss peace. He also preaches peace through his songs. Photo and story courtesy of Ms. Abdia Ahmed CEWARN Field Monitor for Isiolo District in Kenya

Upcoming events:

- CEWARN Technical Committee on Early Warning and Response (TCEW) and Committee of Permanent Secretaries (CPS) Meetings in November in Addis Ababa (dates to be confirmed)
- Cross-Border Peace Meeting for the Somali Cluster from 2 -4 November 2009, location yet to be confirmed
- CEWARN Donors Briefing Meeting, in November in Addis Ababa (date to be confirmed)